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FROM: LONDON

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 5298, APRIL 13, 11 PM

Control: 8203

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10:07 PM

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SENT DEPARTMENT 5298; REPEATED INFORMATION PARIS 820, BONN 350, MOSCOW 220, BERLIN 115.

FROM HILLENBRAND

PARIS FOR EMBASSY AND USRO

PASS DEFENSE

FOUR POWER WORKING GROUP CONVENED THIS AFTERNOON. BRITISH CHAIRMAN HANCOCK URGED UTMOST SECRECY. EXPRESSED HOPE MAJOR PART OF WORK COULD BE COMPLETED BY APRIL 22 STRESSING IMPORTANCE OF GIVING MINISTERS COMPLETED REPORT BEFORE WEEKEND OF APRIL 25. GERMANS EXPRESSED HOPE GROUP COULD COMPLETE ITS WORK BY APRIL 20. US POINTED OUT FOREIGN MINISTERS DIRECTIVE HAD SPOKEN IN TERMS OF A REPORT BY APRIL 25. GENERALLY AGREED GROUP SHOULD WORK AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE, SHOULD AVOID TOO MUCH GENERAL DISCUSSION AND TURN TO DRAFTING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. MEETING CLOSED WITH EXCHANGE OF PAPERS TABLED BY VARIOUS DELEGATIONS AS FOLLOWS: GERMAN DELEGATION PRESENTED REDRAFT OF REUNIFICATION SECTIONS OF STAGES II AND III OF "PHASED PLAN"; BRITISH SUBMITTED BERLIN PLAN GIVEN TO DEPARTMENT ON APRIL 11 IN WASHINGTON; FRENCH TABLED PAPER ON EUROPEAN SECURITY; US INTRODUCED PAPERS ON GENERAL TACTICS AT CONFERENCE WITH SOVIETS, TACTICAL HANDLING PROBLEM GERMAN PARTICIPATION AND POLISH-CZECH PARTICIPATION PROBLEM. WORKING GROUP WILL BEGIN REVIEW PAPERS TOMORROW. US PLANNING TO TABLE PAPERS ON PRINCIPLES OF PEACE TREATY AND DRAFT PEACE TREATY AT THAT TIME.

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TEXTS OF GERMAN AND FRENCH PAPERS BEING SENT BY AIRGRAM. GERMAN PLAN APPEARS TO BE LITTLE MORE THAN REPHRASING OF PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY BRENTANO IN WASHINGTON. PLAN PROVIDES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF MIXED COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF 15 REPRESENTATIVES OF FEDREP AND 5 REPRESENTATIVES OF SO-CALLED GDR APPOINTED BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND GDR AUTHORITIES RESPECTIVELY, WITH CHAIRMAN APPOINTED BY SECRETARY GENERAL OF UN RPT UN FROM NATIONALS OF UN MEMBERS. MIXED COMMISSION TO TAKE DECISIONS BY MAJORITY VOTE PROVIDED EVERY DECISION ALSO REQUIRES MAJORITY WITHIN EACH GROUP OF COMMITTEE. COMMITTEE'S FUNCTIONS LIMITED TO MAKE PROPOSALS TO FOUR POWERS INCLUDING AN ELECTORAL LAW. RETAINS FECHTER PLAN FEATURE FOR SUBMITTING TWO ELECTORAL LAWS TO REFERENDUM IF COMMITTEE UNABLE TO PRESENT A JOINT PROPOSAL WITHIN ONE YEAR. (THIS PRACTICALLY ONLY FEATURE OF ORIGINAL GERMAN PROPOSALS MADE AT PARIS WHICH STILL REMAINS.) AMBIGUOUS PHRASE PROVIDES THAT COMMITTEE COULD BE AUTHORIZED BY FOUR POWERS TO PROMOTE TECHNICAL CONTACTS. NO NOTE TAKEN OF QUESTION OF "SOCIAL ACHIEVEMENTS". GERMAN PLAN SPECIFIES ALL-GERMANY ELECTIONS SHOULD BE HELD AT END OF TWO YEAR PERIOD. MINOR AMENDMENTS REGARDING DRAFTING OF "CONSTITUTION" BY AN ALL-GERMAN ASSEMBLY IN STAGE III SUGGESTED.

BAUDISSLIN PRIVATELY INFORMED US THAT PREPARATION OF GERMAN POSITION AS EMBODIED IN PAPER TABLED TODAY WAS HAMMERED OUT ONLY AFTER SEVERAL ALL NIGHT SESSIONS IN BONN INVOLVING HIGH OFFICIALS OF FOREIGN OFFICE AND MINISTRIES OF DEFENSE, INTERIOR AND ALL-GERMAN AFFAIRS. SCHERPENBERG CARRIED COPY TO ADENAUER IN ITALY OVER WEEKEND AND AFTER MAKING FURTHER AMENDMENTS APPARENTLY OBTAINED CHANCELLOR'S APPROVAL. END RESULT DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE JUSTIFIED ALL THIS EFFORT.

FRENCH PAPER ON SECURITY FAILS TO DEAL ADEQUATELY WITH SEVERAL PROBLEMS RAISED BY FOREIGN MINISTERS. GENERAL PROCEDURAL FORMULA PROPOSES REACTIVATION UN DISARMAMENT DISCUSSION IN ORDER TO PROMOTE AGREEMENT ON STAGED DISARMAMENT MEASURES WHICH MIGHT BE PARALLEL WITH STAGES IN GERMAN REUNIFICATION PROGRESS. FORMULA PROVIDES NO

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STANDARDS

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STANDARDS FOR RELATING THESE SUBJECTS NOR ANY CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO PROCEED IN PRACTICAL TERMS. LALOY SAID THIS RECOMMENDATION REPRESENTED ATTEMPT TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF COUVE'S SUGGESTION IN WASHINGTON WHICH HE FRANKLY ADMITTED HE CONSIDERED IMPRACTICAL.

FRENCH PLAN THEN REITERATES GENEVA PROPOSALS ON OVERLAPPING RADAR SYSTEMS, CALLS FOR ATLANTIC TO URALS RPT URALS AERIAL INSPECTION ZONE. CONTAINS GENERAL LANGUAGE ON FORCE AND ARMS CEILINGS ON NON-INDIGENOUS FORCES IN SPECIAL ZONE CONSISTING OF GERMANY, POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA BUT OMITTING HUNGARY CONTRARY TO PREVIOUS FRENCH EMPHASIS ON INCLUDING HUNGARY. ADOPTS COUVE SUGGESTION BRUSSELS TREATY LIMITATIONS ON FORCE LEVELS BE EXTENDED TO REUNIFIED GERMANY AND AN EQUIVALENT LIMITATION BE APPLIED TO VAGUELY DEFINED EQUIVALENT AREA TO EAST AND ITS PEG HI* ABC WEAPON PRODUCTION PROHIBITION. ALSO TO BE EXTENDED TO ALL GERMANY, POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA. PLAN OMITTS ANY PROPOSALS ON TOTAL TROOP CEILINGS OR PROVISIONS FOR GROUND INSPECTION AGAINST SURPRISE ATTACK. FRENCH TEXT CLOSES WITH BRIEF STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES OF PEACE TREATY FOR GERMANY.

IN GENERAL FRENCH PROPOSALS REPRESENT RETREAT TO PORTIONS OF GENEVA PROPOSALS WHICH FRENCH FIND INOFFENSIVE WHILE IGNORING OTHER FEATURES OF GENEVA PROPOSALS WHICH PRESENT FRENCH GOVERNMENT. DISLIKES, FOR EXAMPLE, GENEVA LANGUAGE LEAVING OPEN POSSIBILITY OF GROUND INSPECTION FOR PROTECTION AGAINST SURPRISE ATTACK.

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